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MONDAY, MARCH 29, 1869.

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The Mexican General Losada, who, at the head of a considerable force, has so long defied the authority of the Federal Government, has resigned his command.

The Washington reports promise us news of plenty of nominations as soon as the Tenureof-Office act is disposed of. They are almost positive on the appointment of John Lothrop Motley to England; they mention among the probabilities the selection of John Jay for Mr. Motley's old place at Vienna; suggest Mr. Francis of Troy for Relgium; and give us our choice of Griswold, Grinnell, or Merritt for Collector of the Port of New-York.

Our reference the other day to the Tammany conspiracy against the Public School System of this city had the effect of waking up our cotemporaries, and it is gratifying that, with one exception, they are found to be all agreed in urging that we let well enough alone. "The " Ring" must not be permitted to control the public schools, as it controls all other departments of our municipal machinery, except those managed by Metropolitan Commissions.

A reign of terror has been established by the Spaniards in Cuba. More than three hundred Cubans have just been exiled to Fernando Po. an unhealthy Spanish possession on the western coast of Africa. An insurgent leader, who was captured near Villa Clara, has been shot. Many other prominent prisoners have been treated the same way. But this severity, far from intimidating the Cubans, inspires them with new confidence in the ultimate success of their cause.

How a half million may vanish, nor leave a trace behind, may be seen in the testimony of Mr. Daniel Drew, printed elsewhere. This gentleman was wholly unable to tell what the Erie Company did with that little sum of money, and the Albany Committee was wholly unable to find out. They could trace it out of the Erie treasury, and could not trace it into legislators' pockets. How far short it stopped might well form the subject for a more thorough investigation.

We print elsewhere the complete returns for Governor of New-Hampshire, by towns, compared with those of the Election one year ago. They show a falling off in the aggregate vote of 9,346, a Republican majority of 3,759, against 2,521 in 1868, and a relative gain to the Republican party of 1,918. That the aggregate vote would be lighter than that of the previous year was to have been expected from the fact that peither party made any special efforts to deyelop its full strength. But the relative gain a the Republican vote shows a satisfactorily healthy condition of the party in New-Hamp-

The French Minister of War on Saturday

of the reorganization of the French army, adducing as a reason that the Government must be prepared to avenge insults if offered. Such language would at any time be liable to warlike construction; at present, when the official press is overflowing with wrath against Belgium for having passed a railroad law that is intended to guard the independence of Belgium, and against Prussia, which is supposed to have instigated the conduct of Belgium, it is specially significant.

A good many charges, of one kind and another, have, at various times, been brought against the managers of the Union Pacific Railway. We have never heard, however, of anybody's charging them with not knowing how to take care of their own interests. Before and beyond everything else they have been thrifty business men. We can very well imagine the horror with which, therefore, they contemplate their present position-held to answer before Judge Barnard, and instructed to turn over their Credit Mobilier to Receiver Tweed! So far as the evidence elicited on Saturday goes, it amounts mainly to flat contradictions, in the affidavits. The case comes up again to-day.

The world certainly moves, when a formal dinner for a hundred and fifty guests can be given at Delmonico's, at which cigars are banished, the wine-drinking is moderate, everybody enjoys the evening, nobody gets drunk, the speeches are all short and mostly clever, and the party breaks up before eleven. The secret is that women were there-and there, not by sufferance, but on an absolute equality, having-we had almost said right manfully-paid their way We present elsewhere some account of this novel entertainment. The gems of the evening were the poems by Misses Alice and Phobe Cary, and these we have the pleasure of print-

Last Thursday, at Lynchburg, Mr. Johnson observed, "In rising at this time to acknowledge 'the honor paid me, it is not for the purpose "of making a speech." The next day, at Greenville, Mr. Johnson observed, "In rising at this "time to acknowledge the honor paid me, it is "not for the purpose of making a speech." In each place he likewise observed that since the 4th of March he was no longer a slave but a freeman; and in each it was noticed that he didn't seem at all glad of it. He further observed at Lynchburg, and likewise at Greenville, that Congress was a body of usurpers; that he had been battling for the Constitution; that the people would soon rouse from their apathy and vindicate their violated rights; and that he should cherish the memory of this welcome so long as his heart continued to beat. And with this conclusion our hero of the Circle sinks into his own place. We are free to say that we are disappointed. We expected to hear of the Flag with Thirty-six Stars;-does Mr. Johnson mean to "go back on" the Flag? We made sure of another discourse on Judas Iscariothas Mr. Johnson lost his old-time regard for that eminent Independent Christian? We even trusted that with the freedom from the sense of official responsibility might come a burst of the old virtue that procliamed treason a crime and promised to hang traitors by the score. We are afraid we must give up Mr. Johnson. He has not fulfilled the promise of that golden prime when he swung around the circle and fought traitors at the other end of the line. Henceforth we shall have to depend upon Mr. Jewett alone.

THE TENURE OF OFFICE.

At 4 p. m. to-day-unless some one should insist on speaking farther in defiance of a general understanding-the Senate will close its able and dignified but too verbose debate on the bill repealing the act regulating the Tenure of Civil Office, and proceed to vote on the various amendments thereto, then on the bill itself; and it is understood that the result will suspend the operation of the act henceforth to the close of Gen. Grant's term. This is one of those shifty expedients to

which modern statesmanship is addicted-from which the Constitution itself is not free-but which do not commend themselves to our approbation. In so far as the Tenure-of-Office act was a temporary device to circumscribe the mischievous influence of Andrew Johnson's treacherous abuse of power, it ought to be repealed outright, as no longer necessary nor proper; in so far as the act asserted and upheld a correct principle, applicable at all times and under all circumstances, it ought to be upheld and continued in force. If the mere fact that we have now a President who may be implicitly trusted affords a reason for surrendering this act, it affords an equally good reason for confirming his nominations in a lump, even before they are made, and thus ignoring the right of the Senate to any voice in the premises.

We approved the passage of the Tenure-of-Office act, apart from and above our distrust of or aversion to Andrew Johnson. Ever since the great debate in the Senate on the removal of Secretary Duane by President Jackson, our conviction has been clear that removals by the President in the recess of the Senate of public functionaries should be restricted to cases in which he presumes, and has reason to presume, that the Senate would concur if it were in session. That is a leading principle affirmed in the Tenure-of-Office act-in our view, a sound and important principle-and we no wise incline to abandon it.

The power to remove from office at will is not expressly conferred on the President by the Constitution. It is one of those inferential powers which the sticklers for "strict construction" are accustomed to stretch beyond warrant or reason. The provision (Act II, § 2)

"The President shall have power to fill up all vacancies that may happen during the recess of the Senate, by granting commissions which shall expire at the end of their is significant and pertinent. It is one that no believer in the modern doctrine of Senatorial impotence in the premises could ever have suggested.

The President nominates to the Senate persons whom he deems fit to hold certain important offices; the Senate approves and confirms them; and they enter upon their duties accordingly: whereupon the Senate adjourns lightened and efficient President. Even Bright's and disperses. Now may the President turn short about and remove the persons so appointed, replacing them by others whom he knows the Senate would not confirm? We say, No-that would be, if not a clear usurpation, at least a flagrant abuse of power, for which the Constitution affords no warrant, against which it would have provided had such action been anticipated or apprehended. We think the Tenure-of-Office act goes none too far in obstructing and counteracting it.

There is no question involved which should antagonize the President and the Senate. The Senate is in session, ready and willing to act | becomes a bond to restrain him from pursuing | sight with respect to anything of this nature; privilege accorded only to a few-it is probable upon any nominations that the President shall the vocation which is essentially his, he will

ninety-nine in every hundred. Until at least one is rejected, we perceive no plausible reason for the repeal or suspension of the Tenure-of-Office act.

JOHN BRIGHT IN OFFICE. Can ye draw out Leviathan with a hook-or

his tongue with a cord? Will he make a

covenant with ye? Shall the companions make a banquet of him? Shall they part him among the merchants? Some such questions, it is rumored, people in England are beginning to ask Mr. Gladstone, and they turn uneasy eyes upon the Leviathan of the Cabinet, John Bright, and notice that he seems already a little impatient of the bondage and the covenant. Twice lately-once at the Fishmongers' Hall Banquet, and once before the Representatives of the Associated Chambers of Commerce-Mr. Bright spoke out with a boldness and an individuality of assertion quite unlike the conventional style of a Cabinet Minister's talk. His words, indeed, were not to be misunderstood-Bright's words seldom fail to convey their precise meaning. What they purported to say was just this: "I am convinced that a great movement 'ought to be made in the way of economy, and toward the permanent elevation of the working classes and the poor. If I can assist that movement by retaining office, I will remain a Cabinet Minister. If I find that in office I am powerless to assist it, then I return to the freedom of unofficial life." That is indeed what every one might have expected. Mr. Bright sacrifices a great deal by taking office under a Government which is not by any means a very advanced or liberal administration. It must have been a severe trial to him to enter a Cabinet in which one of the highest offices is borne by Mr. Lowe, a man he notoriously dislikes and distrusts, and another of the most influential places is occupied by Lord Clarendon, a man whom he as notoriously dislikes and despises. His own inclinations are against the routine labor of official life, and it is well known in England that many members of his family were strenuously opposed to his accepting a place in the present administration. But having entered the Government, it can only be regarded as certain that he will not for any light cause or on any sudden impulse resign his place. No personal consideration, no dislike of this man or distrust of that, no petulant or despondent view hastily assumed, will have the slightest influence on his conduct. Nothing (except of course a break-down in his health) will induce him to abandon Mr. Gladstone's side but the deliberate conviction that he can do no good to the great movement he has chiefly at heart by remaining in office. Let rumor say what it will, we feel satisfied that nothing will induce Bright to resign office until the battle of the Irish Church is fought out. But that great cause once disposed of, there do indeed seem many reasons to doubt whether even so powerful a man as John Bright is likely to do much good by continuing to act as a subordinate member of a Cabinet in which only one great Liberal beside himself holds influential office. Take the two principal objects which (after

the abolition of the Irish Church) Mr. Bright has at heart-the reduction of expediture and the destruction of the land monopoly. Now the expenditure of Great Britain is, as everybody knows, a military expenditure. Not merely the Government, but actually the House of Commons itself, is practically at the mercy of the Commauder-in-Chief as regards much of this expenditure-and the Commanderin-Chief is a prince of the blood royal and consin of the Queen. The Commander-in-Chief is, by the very nature of his appointment, quite independent of the War Minister as regards many of his functions. He has, of course, immense individual influence; and the House of Commons swarms with military officers who are the very slaves and backs, and bangerson of the system which makes the British Army the blood-sucker of the national revenue, and gives to the Duke of Cambridge a power which in this country Gen. Grant would not think of claiming. Only the other day there was an immense fluster because a spirited young fellow, George Trevelyan, a member of Parliament and a subordinate member of the Government, dared to declare that the position of the Commander-in-Chief is the grand obstacle in the way of military reform. Mr. Trevelyan is the son of a man of mark and distinction, Sir Charles Trevelyan; he is the nephew of a man of far greater mark and distinction, the late Lord Macaulay; and yet if one of the acolytes at the high altar of St. Peter's were publicly to snap his finger in the face of the Pope, it could hardly create greater wonder and alarm than Mr. Trevelvan's allusion to the Commander-in-Chief. Now Mr. Bright will, beyond all possible doubt, endeavor to remedy-indeed, to revolutionize all this. What chance is there of his succeeding in this Administration, weighed down as it is with Peers and Whigs, and combined only for one special work of reform-the abolition of the Irish Church? And if he can do nothing in the way of a substantial reduction of military expenditure, how is he to secure for the poor Englishmen the free breakfast table, which he declared only the other day it was his object to obtain? All that is to be said in relation to military expenditure may be applied with equal force to the land questions. Apart from the subject of the Irish Church, the Gladstone Cabinet will be found rather reactionary than otherwise-and what would Bright have to do in such a Cabinet?

In fact, he must either conquer the opposition of inertness and old-fashioned routine and class privilege and reaction which is represented by the Clarendons, and Granvilles, and Cardwells, and Hartingtons, or he must make up his mind to be conquered if he would remain in the Cabinet. Like Ajax and his opponent, he must throw or be thrown. Rather, he must drag the others after him or be dragged after them. Assuredly he will not accept the latter alternative. He will never be content to discharge the routine duties of his own department and to do nothing more, "to sing his 'sang, and tak' his drink, and draw his salary," as the prudent warrior in Guy Mannering says every Revenue officer ought to do. Much more was pledged to the people of England, when Bright took office, than merely that the Board of Trade should have an enposition in the confidence of the nation would be shaken if it were supposed for a moment that this was all he went into office to do. It is expected of him that he will devote himself in office with all his heart and mind to the carrying out of the great reform which, out of office, he labored for so long. No one who knows Mr. Bright can doubt for a moment that he will set his duty to his countrymen immeasurably higher than his place as a party politician or as a Cabinet Minister. The moment his covenant with his official colleagues

taking office was only an experiment; we doubt scrofulous tendencies, and, by consequence, whether it promises in this instance to be very successful. Our own impression is that, after the settlement of the Irish Church question (supposing the Tories do not succeed by some unexpected movement in frustrating the present measure), there will be a reconstruction of the Cabinet, and that it will be much more decidedly progressive and Radical than it is, and that Bright will be once more in his old place below the gangway, as an independent member. Should that event come to pass, one other event may be confidently looked for. Bright will one day be invited to form a Cabinet for himself.

OUR PENITENTIARIES.

The Annual Report of the Inspectors of our State Prisons is fully as interesting as any previously made, and it contains suggestions worthy of especial attention by the Legislature. The prisons are located as follows: At Sing Sing, where, in addition, is a suitable structure for the female convicts of the whole State; at Auburn, where, in a well-arranged Asylum and with two acres of ground attached, the insane convicts of the State are cared for; and at Clinton.

At Sing Sing, the average number of male prisoners during the year has been 1,293. Of these-14 died, 14 escaped, 37 were pardoned, and 8 became insane. The total expenses were about \$300,000, and the actual deficiency is about \$100,000. Something like half of this deficiency should be charged to improvements, and to expenses incurred in teaching men unacquainted with the industries to which they were assigned. In the female department, the average has been 144, of whom one has died and one been pardoned. The expenses have been \$27,500, the earnings \$4,889 31, making a deficiency of \$22,676 95. At Auburn, the number of convicts has been 910, of which 83 were pardoned, 10 died, and 2 escaped. The entire earnings of each convict have been \$132 73, and the entire expenses \$167 74, being a deficiency of \$35; but we do not understand that prison expenses generally are included in the first sum. In the Asylum for the Insane, there were 76 patients-3 escaped, and 2 died. The expenses were \$17,876, and the patients have raised large quantities of vegetables-value not stated. This department seems so well managed in all its details that only a few improvements are suggested. The number of convicts in the Clinton Prison is 512: pardoned, 12; died, 8; insane, 1. The deficiency is \$32,694 96; but this is owing to fluctuations in the products of the industries carried on; since in previous years there had been balances in favor of the prison. To a great extent, the convicts here are engaged in making iron and nails, and some parties go several miles distant into the woods and remain a whole week. The Albany Prison does not belong to the State; but, as United States and other convicts are received, and as it has marked prominence, it may be noted that there are 356 inmates; that during the year 16 have been pardoned, 12 died, one became insane, and that the institution is not only self-supporting, but it has a surplus this year of \$7,353 26. Among the receipts is the item of \$17,814 11 for the maintenance of United States and other conviets.

At Sing Sing and Auburn, the contract system is in fall operation, and large stocks of such articles as shoes, saddlery bardware, malleable iron, augers, whips, and cabinet ware, are manufactured. Contractors who are engaged in these various industries pay to the State from 40 to 45 cents a day for convict labor; and, as much work is done by machinery, comparatively little skill is required, and execution is extremely rapid. It is generally understood that the contractors get rich, and at the same time they are able to under-sell those who produce goods by higher-priced labor. The inspectors think that the State should organize this labor, and have what profit there may be in it; in which case there will be no competition with honest mechanics, and the conclusion is natural that, should the State do so, these institutions would be conducted at a profit and not at a loss. With this profit, improvements could be inaugurated; and that they are needed is manifest to every intelligent person who visits our prisons. Indeed, improvement has marked our age, in almost every department to which attention has been turned, except in prison treatment; and here the only advance has been in establishing a certain degree of cleanliness, and in turning the convict over to the rapacious contractor. Of course, punishment implies restraint; and from this disgrace and discomfort are inseparable. But there are two features in prison treatment which should be disassociated from this enlightened age. One is a want of classification. A young man who inadvertently has committed crime, and who should not be so treated as to be made worse, is associated with murderers or other hardened criminals; and there are cases where the young man is sentenced for ten years, while the murderer is sentenced for only five years. It is true that no conversation is allowed; but it cannot be prevented, for no industry can be pursued if it must be watched so closely as to prevent the utterance of low tones of the voice. It is true also that there is a commutation by which the period of sentence is shortened for good behavior; but it is not graduated, and the wickedest wretch and a graduate of European cities in crime will have the same reward of good behavior, as much as the young man who is the victim of parental neglect or of evil companions. At Sing Sing, 1,000 convicts are treated with unnecessary severity, and they are refused salutary privileges for no other reason than because they are associated with 300 hardened, depraved villains. In view of this fact, the Inspectors wisely recommend that Sing Sing Prison be devoted to the punishment of all the worst cases in the State, and that at Auburn proper regulations be established for the treatment of such tions, however, the main object is to put the as will be impressible by kindness, and anxious to prepare themselves for leading a better life. Another painful feature is in the fact that, when a prisoner is discharged, he has no friends. During the whole period of his confinement, he is so entirely relieved from any kind of responsibility that, in a manner, his moral nature becomes dwarfed, and he is less fitted, if possible, to mingle in society than when he was taken from it. It is true we have a Prison Association; but it must be unequal to the task of at once elevating deprayed men, and before it can act upon them they are

which requires serious consideration. This is the low and limited diet, which, although it may not impair the physical powers, still cannot sustain the nervous system and the brain to the extent that a better diet would, nor to the extent that it was sustained before imprisonment. The truth is, there is no guardian overurged in the Legislative Body the completion | see if to make, and certain to confirm at least | withdraw from the inconvenient compact. His | they will confess that this diet generates |

There is another branch of prison treatment

again lost.

consumption; hence, it is a question whether the State has any right to establish any measures which in the end shorten life and diminish the powers of the mind.

It is a hopeful consideration that the Inspectors are not unmindful, at least, of the glaring defects of prison treatment, and, with a humanity worthy of praise, they suggest reforms, and, in particular, they point to the Intermediate System, which has been so successful in Ireland, as worthy of adoption here. This system is based upon the fact above referred to, that a prisoner is not at once fitted to return to the world, for he has become little better than a child, and does not know what to do. From the time a prisoner is first received, his conduct is subject to the closest scrutiny, and, when it has become apparent that he may be trusted, he is transferred to a prison where there are few or no precautions for preventing his escape, except by lock-up at night, and where he mainly engages in agricultural industry. At Lusk, near Dublin, about 1,000 prisoners are thus held. The escapes are few, and such is the reformation and usefulness of the prisoners as laborers, that upon their final discharge there is immediate demand for their services from the neighboring farmers. Too little is known of this prison at Lusk; but perhaps some among our future travelers may be so well qualified as to think that a description will be read with interest.

In connection with such a system, and, of course, with the total abolition of the Contract system, the management should be such that the prisoner will be able to save something, either that he may commence life again where he is not known, or that he may contribute something to the support of his family. But, whether these and other plans belonging thereto shall be adopted, it will be important first to have new aims with regard to prison treatment. While punishment and prevention of crime are provided, the equally important object of reformation should be kept in view. No thought, hitherto, has been entertained that the prisoner can be reformed; but the proposition of the Inspectors for the establishment of the Intermediate System is worthy of the careful consideration of the Legislature and of all thinking men.

ORDNANCE IN CONGRESS.

There is a Military Court now sitting in Washington on the doings of the Ordnance Bureau, and we do not care to anticipate its judgment. Nor do we care to meddle with any existing controversies, since there is solid ground to stand upon, entirely outside of their scope and area.

The whole business of Gun-making has been revolutionized within a few years past. The approved small arms of to-day are twice as efficient as those with which we fought out our late Civil War. We do not presume that perfection has yet been attained; but it is certain that we can no more go back to muzele-loaders than to flint-locks, or even bows and arrows.

As to arfillery, all is yet chaotic. It is settled that great changes are impending; no one can yet say with confidence what they must oe. Nations must and will have larger guns, of longer range and greater breaching power, than those wherewith the Napoleonic or even the Italian and Crimean wars were fought; but no government is fully satisfied with any great gun yet cast. The best of them will burst-no one can tell why or how soon-and are just about as perilous to those who serve as to these who confront them. The Great Pewers of Europe have spent and are spending millions after millions in experiments on big guns, and (as war among them is still imminent) must go on spending-no one can guess how long. But, as we mean and expect to keep out of war for a generation, we can well afford to wait a few years, and profit by the conclusions of France, Prussia and Great Britain when these conclusions shall have been reached.

Now, the Joint Committee on Ordnance has, at all events, done the country this great service-it has prevented the expenditure on cannon since 1865 of vast sums that would have been sunk in costly experiments and dubious guns if the Ordnance Bureau's recommendations had been followed. We estimate the National Debt as Ten if not Twenty Millions less than it would have been but for the investigations of that Joint Committee. Hence, we pray Congress to reconstitute it, and bid it prosecute the good work it has so vigorously initiated. Investigation costs something; but Rodman, Parrott, and other such guns, cost a great deal more; wherefore, we entreat Congress to investigate searchingly and order new guns sparingly for the next four or five years. This course will be found eminently conducive to economy in the present and efficiency in the future.

WHAT IS "DEATH!"

When we noticed the novel course pursued by the Sheriff of Oneida County, in administering chloroform to Carswell just before his execution, we were pretty certain that the advocates of capital punishment would be indignant at such untimely humanity, and that the softhearted Sheriff would hear from them speedily. He has heard from them. They have had him indicted, and now they want him turned out of his place. What he is indicted for, or why he should be expelled from office, we cannot even conjecture. A statute may be passed forbidding the employment of chloroform at executions, but there is no law against it at present. The ground taken is that the executed, by virtue of the chloroform, was preserved from pain, and that his sufferings were not according to the legal standard. If the old doctrine of "An eye for an eye, and a tooth, " for a tooth " were still literally acted upon, we could understand this. The gouging and the extraction, with their attendant agonies, would be a part of the punishment. In legal execuculprit to death; but if the physical pain of dying is parcel of the penalty, then there is no reason why, in cases of sufficient aggravation, the offender should not be racked, thumb-screwed, or otherwise tortured, before being turned off. The methods of execution, particularly for high treason, practiced not more than a century ago in England, did have for their object a certain amount of cruelty. Sometimes, when these extraordinary penalties were not remitted, the traiter was first half-hanged, then cut down, then disemboweled, his entrails being consumed before his own eyes, and then finally beheaded. Now, if a Sheriff in those days, and in the exercise of such pleasing functions, had first given the doomed man chloroform, or any other anæsthetic then discovered, unquestionably that Sheriff might have been indicted for malfeasance, So, too, if an officer of the Inquisition, at a grand auto-da-fe, had strangled all the victims before burning-that being a special and gracious that the Inquisition would have dealt harshly with its servant. If the advocates of Capital Barnes, Secretary of the Society. and, if the physicians are closely questioned, that the Inquisition would have dealt harsbly

Punishment will plainly take the ground that in hanging the law means to inflict physical pain, we shall appreciate their candor. Argumentation upon the topic, after that, will be pretty plain sailing.

THE NATURALIZATION FRAUDS.

In the year 1868, and mainly in the months of September and October, not less than Eighty Thousand Certificates of Naturalization were issued in this State, whereof at least Fifty Thousand were fraudulent. By the use of those fraudulent certificates, Grant and Colfax were swindled out of the Electoral Votes of New-York and New-Jersey, and Democratic Governors imposed on these States in defiance of the wishes and the votes of their people.

Does Congress propose to adjourn and leave us subject to further and indefinite subjugation by means of these fraudulent Certificates? This is a practical question, and must receive a practical answer. The facts in the case are sufficiently developed in the Report of the Hon. Wm. Lawrence to the last House, with the testimony on which that Report is based; any Member who is in doubt as to his duty in the premises should carefully read that Report. We cannot realize that his doubts would survive that ordeal.

Thousands of the fraudulent Certificates were made the basis of registration and voting; but thousands more were held back, because of the vigilance with which the Republicans of most election districts guarded the polls. These Certificates are all ready for use at our next and at all subsequent elections. They were employed to defeat Charles H. Van Wyck, Thomas Cornell and George A. Halsey last Fall; they can be made to defeat John Hill, John H. Ketchum, Stephen Sanford and David S. Bennett, in 1870. They will by that time have acquired a savor of antiquity, and no longer seem so greenly, so impudently, fraudulent, as they did last Fall. Unless rescued by Congress, we are under the feet of the villains who planned and executed the gigantic iniquities in Naturalization which bore hard upon us in 1866 and bore us down in 1868.

We sympathize fully in the general desire for an early adjournment; but it can only be fairly achieved through a week's vigorous devotion to business, with a strong curb on the mania for gabbling. Much work remains to be done: and of this work the correction of past with the inhibition of future Naturalization abuses is the most important and indispensable

OFFICE AND BUSINESS.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

SIR: As a good citizen, and one who is in favor of honest officials, do you think it is right for two Tax Commissioners to be real estate brokers and auctioncers ! Reflect on the business in connection with the office.

N. S., A Taxpayer.

Answer .- Yes, we certainly do. We cannot imagine a case in which a man's interest as a dealer in real estate could conflict with his duty ns a Tax Commissioner; while no one else is so likely to know the actual and taxable value of real estate as a dealer therein.-Ed.

The Senate's Committee of Commerce has reported the nomination of Gen. James Longstreet for Surveyor of the Port of New-Orleans without recommendation; thus affording to the Senate an admirable opportunity for showing that it is less wise, magnanimous, and far-seeing than Gen. Grant, and that for any decisive action designed to extinguish and efface the hates and wounds of our late Civil War, the country must look to the President alone. We do not believe that Gen. Grant wishes to be a dictator or to perpetuate his power; but, if he cherished any such ambitious purpose, the course virtaally commended to the Senate by its Committee would immensely facilitate its consummation. To "fly from petty tyrants to the throne," is an old resort, whereof the reason was never occult nor the policy doubtful.

A searching test of the wisdom of a commended to a party is generally afforded by the question-"What does the adversary "you to do in the premises?" Does any intelligent person doubt-must he not morally know -that every implacable Rebel will be gratified by Gen. Longstreet's rejection ?-that he will hail it as a justification of his own course, and a proof that "the Radicals" insist on prosecuting the War, no matter how complete may be the submission of those who upheld the banner of

We ask but this favor of those Senators who have resolved to reject Gen. Longstreet-Act frankly; act promptly; and give us the Yeas

The bill authorizing the opening of Free Public Libraries on Sunday, for the purposes of reading and reference, has been killed in the Massachusetts Senate, upon a motion for reconsideration, by a yote of 23 to 11. This probably settles the question, if not finally at least for some time to come; and we think that, upon the whole, the decision is a wise one. The largest liberty is already allowed to those who desire to borrow books, which are loaned without money and without price; whoever desires to borrow a book on Saturday for the purpose of reading it upon Sunday can do so; and further than this we cannot think it desirable to go, unless provision is also made for closing the Libraries upon a secular day, in order that those employed in them may have proper rest. Saturday, for obvious reasons, is always a day of unusual toil for all the officers of Public Libraries, and they need and should have the repose of the Sabbath. A person who cares so little for reading that he will not take the trouble to provide himself on Saturday with reading for Sunday, might like to lounge in the reading-rooms on Sunday; but we see no good reason why he should be accomodated at the expense of others. Forced, as we are, to do a considerable portion of our work on Sunday, we have no wish to see this hardship unnecessarily extended. We desire no merely Puritanical observance of the Sabbath; but we are sadly certain that the American people have not Days of Rest enough.

The latest dispatches from Washington, last night, confirm the statement which we have elsewhere made, of the probability that the Tenure-of-Civil-Offices act will to-day be suspended for four years, as a compromise between the friends of total repeal and those of the principle of the law as it now stands.

The Rochester Union makes a bitter attack upon the New-York Associated Press for an alleged failure to deliver promptly in Rochester the news of the Cabinet appointments. The Union ought to know that it gets its news from another organization-of which it is a member-the New-York State Associated Press, and that whatever delay occeared was charge able there. By making inquiry in quarters is which it ought to be acquainted it will learn further that the peculiar terms of its cheap contract with the telegraph fully account for the failure by the State Association in this case. The moral is telerably obvious.

Costa's oratorio of "Naaman" is to be pro duced in Eoston next Saturday evening by the Han and Haydn Society for the first time in America.